Snap Planets Explained: Quick Guide

Snap Planets, officially called Snapchat Planets, are a Snapchat+ feature that ranks your top 8 friends as planets in a personal solar system. You're the Sun. Your closest friends orbit you as Mercury, Venus, Earth, and so on, based on how often you interact.

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The Quick Facts

- **8 planets total**, Mercury through Neptune, no Pluto
- **Snapchat+ exclusive**, free users can't see or use it
- **Off by default**, even paying subscribers must turn it on manually
- **Private**, you only see your own solar system, never anyone else's full ranking
- **Based on activity**, Snaps, chats, and Story replies decide your rank, not real-life closeness

What Determines Your Rank?

Snapchat hasn't published its exact algorithm. What's confirmed: rankings reflect **frequency of interaction**, update continuously based on **recent activity**, and are **personal and asymmetric**, your rank in a friend's system doesn't mirror theirs in yours.

Example: if you snap a sibling daily but only text a coworker weekly, your sibling ranks near Mercury while your coworker sits closer to Neptune.

Why It's Off by Default

Snap made the Friend Solar System opt-in in April 2024, after reports linked visible friendship rankings to anxiety among teen users. Today, **fewer than 0.25%** of Snapchat's community actively uses the feature.

Common Misconception

Snap Planets don't measure real friendship value. A close friend can rank lower simply due to time zones, a busy schedule, or reduced contact, not because the relationship weakened.

FAQ

Do I need Snapchat+ for Snap Planets?

Yes, it's a paid-subscription-only feature, starting around $3.99/month.

Can I see who's ranked in a friend's solar system?

No, only your own single rank is ever visible to you.

Why did my rank change?

Rankings update based on recent activity, both yours and your friends'. A quiet week can shift your position.

Want the full breakdown? See our complete Snap Planets guide for every planet's meaning, ranking factors, badges, and troubleshooting.

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